



MILLIS

Norfolk County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Millis is a suburban industrial town in the Charles River Valley, incorporated in 1885. First settled in 1658, the first mill was built in town in 1662 on Bogestow Pond. The town's early economy was based largely on agriculture and grazing. King Philip's war destroyed every building in town except the fortified stone house built for protection. There were taverns, grist and sawmills serving the farming population in town after 1710, and the community remained a prosperous agricultural town throughout the century. In the next century, the town's character changed with the two cotton mills established in 1805. One of these mills is reputed to have installed the first lace loom in America in 1818. Brickyards, organ and organ pipe factories, along with a paper mill and canning factory, in operation in 1837, joined the textile operations as significant town industries. In modern times, however, all that remained of early industrial operations were Herman Shoes, Safe Pack Mills and the Cliquot Club ginger ale plant. Millis retains a significant number of bungalow-style houses as well as some Greek Revival and Italianate buildings.

(Seal supplied by community. Narrative based on information provided by the Massachusetts Historical Commission)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Southeastern Massachusetts, bordered by Medway on the west, Holliston on the northwest, Sherborn on the north, Medfield on the northeast and east, and Norfolk on the southeast and south. Millis is 15 miles southwest of Boston, 30 miles southeast of Worcester, and 200 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 12.27 sq. miles

Land Area: 12.16 sq. miles

Population: 7,613

Density: 626 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(West Medway Station)

Normal temperature in January.....23.9°F

Normal temperature in July.....70.8°F

Normal annual precipitation.....46.6"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Medfield, Holliston

Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (508) 376-2634

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Town Administrator

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1885

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	4,474		
Democrats	1,027	23.0	%
Republicans	646	14.4	%
Other parties	8	0.2	%
Unenrolled Voters	2,793	62.4	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Millis town, Norfolk County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	7,902	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	7,902	100.0
Male.....	3,824	48.4	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	74	0.9
Female.....	4,078	51.6	Mexican.....	10	0.1
Under 5 years.....	657	8.3	Puerto Rican.....	17	0.2
5 to 9 years.....	636	8.0	Cuban.....	9	0.1
10 to 14 years.....	540	6.8	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	38	0.5
15 to 19 years.....	407	5.2	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	7,828	99.1
20 to 24 years.....	285	3.6	White alone.....	7,598	96.2
25 to 34 years.....	1,069	13.5	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	1,584	20.0	Total population.....	7,902	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	1,304	16.5	In households.....	7,866	99.5
55 to 59 years.....	394	5.0	Householder.....	3,004	38.0
60 to 64 years.....	283	3.6	Spouse.....	1,812	22.9
65 to 74 years.....	462	5.8	Child.....	2,579	32.6
75 to 84 years.....	222	2.8	Own child under 18 years.....	2,063	26.0
85 years and over.....	59	0.7	Other relatives.....	186	2.4
Median age (years).....	37.2	(X)	Under 18 years.....	45	0.6
18 years and over.....	5,774	73.1	Nonrelatives.....	285	3.6
Male.....	2,736	34.6	Unmarried partner.....	126	1.6
Female.....	3,038	38.4	In group quarters.....	36	0.5
21 years and over.....	5,612	71.0	Institutionalized population.....	36	0.5
62 years and over.....	908	11.5	Noninstitutionalized population.....	-	-
65 years and over.....	743	9.4	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	309	3.9	Total households.....	3,004	100.0
Female.....	434	5.5	Family households (families).....	2,164	72.0
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	1,120	37.3
One race.....	7,836	99.2	Married-couple family.....	1,812	60.3
White.....	7,660	96.9	With own children under 18 years.....	936	31.2
Black or African American.....	56	0.7	Female householder, no husband present.....	278	9.3
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	11	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	155	5.2
Asian.....	90	1.1	Nonfamily households.....	840	28.0
Asian Indian.....	41	0.5	Householder living alone.....	685	22.8
Chinese.....	24	0.3	Householder 65 years and over.....	213	7.1
Filipino.....	8	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	1,164	38.7
Japanese.....	2	-	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	551	18.3
Korean.....	5	0.1	Average household size.....	2.62	(X)
Vietnamese.....	6	0.1	Average family size.....	3.12	(X)
Other Asian ¹	4	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-	Total housing units.....	3,066	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	3,004	98.0
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	62	2.0
Samoan.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	6	0.2
Some other race.....	19	0.2	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.3	(X)
Two or more races.....	66	0.8	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.8	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: ³			Occupied housing units.....	3,004	100.0
White.....	7,722	97.7	Owner-occupied housing units.....	2,312	77.0
Black or African American.....	80	1.0	Renter-occupied housing units.....	692	23.0
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	27	0.3	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.81	(X)
Asian.....	111	1.4	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	1.99	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	1	-			
Some other race.....	34	0.4			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	83
Conventional Federal:	0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	4
Federal (Section 8):	21



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Millis is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Route 109, which connects State Route 128 with Interstate Route 495, and State Route 115 running N-S.

Rail

Commuter rail service to Back Bay Station and South Station is available in neighboring Norfolk. Travel time to BBS: 35-47 min.; 491 MBTA parking spaces. The Bay Colony Railroad (BCRR) provides freight service to Millis, interchanging cars with Conrail at the Framingham junction. Contact number for the BCRR: (617) 380-3556; for Conrail: (617) 783-6222.

Bus

Millis is a member of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA). Brush Hill Transportation provides service to Boston.

Other

The Norfolk Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility, is easily accessible. It has a 2,700' asphalt runway with a copter approach.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

Willowbrook Manor Rest Home

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.